

## Claims

1. Apparatus for filling and removing containers (8,9) for sorted mail items which can be filled from two rows of sorting endpoints (2,3), disposed one above the other, of a sorting device (1) and which can be transferred to a storage and conveying device (10), characterized in that under every two sorting endpoints (2,3) disposed one above the other there is an extendable support mechanism (4) for accommodating two containers (8,9) one behind the other which is extendable half-way to fill the front container (9) or completely to fill the rear container (8) or both containers (8,9).
2. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that, in its fully extended state, the support mechanism (4) adjoins at approximately equal height the storage and conveying device (10) which runs as a conveyor track parallel to the sorting endpoints (2,3) disposed one after the other.
3. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the support mechanism (4) has a telescopic extending mechanism.
4. Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the support mechanism (4) has a flat floor with low friction coefficient for accommodating and moving the containers (8,9) on the support mechanism (4).
5. Device according to claim 1, characterized in that the support mechanism (4) has a frame with

swiveling rollers (5,6,7) on which the containers (8,9) are supported and can be moved toward the storage and conveying device (10) or away from the storage and conveying device (10) on the support mechanism (4), the rollers (5,6,7) being disposed height-wise such that each container (8,9) is inclined to a stop when at rest.

6. Device according to claim 5,  
characterized in that each container (8,9) at rest, held against the stop, is inclined toward the storage and conveying device (10).
7. Device according to claim 5,  
characterized in that, for each container (8,9) at rest, the last rollers (7) in the inclining direction are mounted in a raised manner so that they act as a stop.